

AMENDMENT TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph appearing on page 5, line 23 to page 6, line 3 with the following amended paragraph:

In general, it can often seem that designing integrated circuits is similar to writing a piece of software. Both the behavior and structural models of integrated circuit elements are written in the hardware description language, and can be changed, compiled, and simulated in a manner similar to writing, compiling and executing a program written in a high-level programming language, such as ~~Java~~ JAVATM or C++, for example. However, the two processes are fundamentally different.